

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are in the application.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baranowski et al. `630 in view of Baranowski et al. `825 and further in view of Izawa et al. `983.

Applicant submits that the references relied on in rejecting the claims do not disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed.

The reference to Baranowski et al. `630 is directed to a wireless headset. According to the reference, charging is entirely uncoupled from the audio transmission.

With respect to the reference to Baranowski et al. `825 applicant submits that the audio transmission to a headset takes place in the reference either through a wire or wirelessly. The reference does not contain any teaching with respect to charging.

Finally, the newly cited reference to Izawa et al. '983 deals with a transmission of data, for example, from a PC to an audio reproducing apparatus. As stated in paragraph [0089], a USB connection also assumes the function of supplying energy from the PC to the audio reproducing apparatus.

Such a USB connection comprises a single connecting cable which has contacts which are simultaneously independent of each other and wires for the energy supply, on the one hand, and for the data transmission, on the other hand. Consequently, always only one USB plug of the same type can be plugged into the terminal 6.

In accordance with the present invention, on the other hand, the connector socket has the purpose of receiving different plugs. These plugs can never be plugged in at the same time. Even though the different plugs are plugged into the same connector socket, it is possible to carry out different functions. When the signal plug is part of a charging cable, appropriate first contact surfaces of the connector socket contact precisely the corresponding areas of the charging plug. If the plug is part of an audio cable, the corresponding second contact surfaces of the connector socket contact precisely the corresponding portions of the audio plug.

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The plug system according to the present invention differs from the prior art in that, in the plugged-in state, connections to respectively different contact surfaces in the connector socket are made.

Consequently, the present invention as claimed is based on the basic concept that the connector socket can receive different plugs for different functions and can still automatically correctly operate in spite of the differences of the plugs.

Consequently, it is respectfully submitted that the claims in the application are clearly patentable over the art of record.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with the application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 13, 2007.

By: 
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